

2. In § 642.7, paragraphs (q) through (u) are revised to read as follows:

§ 642.7 Prohibitions.

* * * * *

(q) Exceed a commercial trip limit for Atlantic group king or Spanish mackerel, as specified in § 642.27(a) or (b).

(r) Transfer at sea from one vessel to another an Atlantic group king or Spanish mackerel subject to a commercial trip limit, as specified in § 642.27(f).

(s) In the eastern zone, possess or land Gulf group king mackerel in or from the EEZ in excess of an applicable trip limit, as specified in § 642.28(a), (b)(1), or (b)(2), or transfer at sea such king mackerel, as specified in § 642.28(e).

(t) In the Florida west coast sub-zone, possess or land Gulf group king mackerel in or from the EEZ aboard a vessel that uses or has aboard a run-around gillnet on a trip when such vessel does not have on board a commercial permit for king and Spanish mackerel with a gillnet endorsement, as specified in § 642.28(b)(2)(i).

(u) In the Florida west coast sub-zone, aboard a vessel for which a commercial permit for king and Spanish mackerel with a gillnet endorsement has been issued, retain Gulf group king mackerel in or from the EEZ harvested with gear other than run-around gillnet, as specified in § 642.28(b)(1)(ii)(C).

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3. In § 642.24, paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) is revised to read as follows:

§ 642.24 Bag and possession limits.

(a) * * *

(1) * * *

(ii) * * *

(A) *Northern area*—five per person through December 31, 1995; three per person thereafter.

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§ 642.25 [Amended]

4. In § 642.25, in paragraph (a)(2), the numbers “3.71” and “1.68” are revised to read “2.70” and “1.22”, respectively and in paragraph (b)(2), the numbers “4.60” and “2.09” are revised to read “4.70” and “2.13”, respectively.

5. In § 642.27, paragraphs (a) through (e) are redesignated as paragraphs (b) through (f), respectively; in newly redesignated paragraphs (c) and (d), the references to “paragraph (a)(2) of this section” are revised to read “paragraph (b)(2) of this section”; in newly redesignated paragraph (c) the numbers “4.35” and “1.97” are revised to read “4.45” and “2.02”, respectively; the reference in newly redesignated paragraph (f) introductory text and in

newly redesignated paragraph (f)(2), “Spanish mackerel” is revised to read “king or Spanish mackerel”; the section heading is revised; paragraph (a) is added; and a paragraph heading is added to newly redesignated paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 642.27 Commercial trip limits for Atlantic group king and Spanish mackerel.

(a) *Atlantic group king mackerel.* (1) North of a line extending directly east from the Volusia/Flagler County, Florida boundary (29°25' N. lat.) to the outer limit of the EEZ, king mackerel in or from the EEZ may not be possessed aboard or landed from a vessel in a day in amounts exceeding 3,500 lb (1,588 kg).

(2) In the area between lines extending directly east from the northern and southern boundaries of Volusia County, Florida (29°25' N. lat. and 28°47.8' N. lat., respectively) to the outer limit of the EEZ, king mackerel in or from the EEZ may not be possessed aboard or landed from a vessel in a day in amounts exceeding 3,500 lb (1,588 kg) from April 1 through October 31.

(3) In the area between lines extending directly east from the Volusia/Brevard County, Florida boundary (28°47.8' N. lat.) to the outer limit of the EEZ and directly west from the Monroe/Collier County, Florida boundary (25°48' N. lat.) to the outer boundary of the EEZ, king mackerel in or from the EEZ may not be possessed aboard or landed from a vessel in a day in amounts exceeding 50 fish from April 1 through October 31.

(b) *Atlantic group Spanish mackerel.*

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6. In § 642.28, a sentence is added at the end of paragraph (a)(2), and paragraph (b) and paragraph (e) introductory text, are revised to read as follows:

§ 642.28 Additional limitations for Gulf group king mackerel in the eastern zone.

(a) * * *

(2) * * * However, if 75 percent of the sub-zone's quota has not been harvested by March 1, the vessel limit remains at 50 king mackerel per day until the sub-zone's quota is filled or until March 31, whichever occurs first.

(b) *Florida west coast sub-zone*—(1) *Gillnet gear.* (i) In the Florida west coast sub-zone, king mackerel in or from the EEZ may be possessed aboard or landed from a vessel for which a permit with a gillnet endorsement has been issued under § 642.4, from July 1, each fishing year, until a closure of the Florida west coast sub-zone's commercial fishery for vessels fishing with run-around gillnets

has been effected under § 642.26—in amounts not exceeding 25,000 lb (11,340 kg) per day.

(ii) In the Florida west coast sub-zone:

(A) King mackerel in or from the EEZ may be possessed aboard or landed from a vessel that uses or has aboard a run-around gillnet on a trip only when such vessel has on board a commercial permit for king and Spanish mackerel with a gillnet endorsement;

(B) King mackerel from the west coast sub-zone landed by a vessel for which such commercial permit with endorsement has been issued will be counted against the run-around gillnet quota of § 642.25(a)(1)(i)(B)(2); and

(C) King mackerel in or from the EEZ harvested with gear other than run-around gillnet may not be retained aboard a vessel for which such commercial permit with endorsement has been issued.

(2) *Hook-and-line gear.* In the Florida west coast sub-zone, king mackerel in or from the EEZ may be possessed aboard or landed from a vessel permitted under § 642.4(a)(1) and operating under the commercial hook-and-line gear quota in § 642.25(a)(1)(i)(B)(1):

(i) From July 1, each fishing year, until 75 percent of the sub-zone's hook-and-line gear quota has been harvested—in amounts not exceeding 125 king mackerel per day; and

(ii) From the date that 75 percent of the sub-zone's hook-and-line gear quota has been harvested until a closure of the west coast sub-zone's hook-and-line fishery has been effected under § 642.26—in amounts not exceeding 50 king mackerel per day.

* * * * *

(e) *Transfer at sea.* A person for whom a trip limit specified in paragraph (a), (b)(1)(i), or (b)(2) of this section or a gear limitation specified in paragraph (b)(1)(ii)(A) of this section applies may not transfer at sea from one vessel to another a king mackerel:

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50 CFR Part 697

[Docket No. 950605148-5148-01; I.D. 060195C]

RIN 0648-AH58

Atlantic Coast Weakfish Fishery; Moratorium in Exclusive Economic Zone; Comment Period Extension

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On June 20, 1995, NMFS published a proposed rule that would prohibit fishing for and possession of Atlantic coast weakfish in the exclusive economic zone offshore from Maine through Florida. NMFS announces that it is extending the comment period from August 2 to August 15, 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before August 15, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the proposed rule should be sent to: Richard H. Schaefer, Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 14657, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Hogarth, 301-713-2339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 20, 1995, NMFS published a proposed rule in the **Federal Register** (60 FR 32130). As a result of the initial hearings held in July 1995, and requests from the

public, NMFS has determined that it is important for commenters to have additional time to submit their comments on this proposed rulemaking. Therefore, NMFS is extending the comment period from August 2, 1995 to August 15, 1995.

Dated: July 28, 1995.

Richard B. Stone,

*Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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